



#6/a  
mat  
3/17/04

PATENT  
Docket No. 47440-023000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re U.S. Patent Application )

Certificate of Mailing

Applicant: HERSHEY, ET AL. )

Serial No.: 09/672,452 )

Filed: September 29, 2000 )

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR STEGANOGRAPHIC  
EMBEDDING OF META-  
DATA** )

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any documents referred to as attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Patricia D. Richards

Signature

March 1, 2004

Date of Signature

Examiner: Shafali D. Patel )

Art Unit: 2621 )

**AMENDMENT**

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 09 2004**

**Technology Center 2600**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The following Amendment and Remarks are submitted in response to the Office

Action dated September 2, 2003. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Applicant has requested a three-month extension of time to and including March 2, 2004, to file a response to the Office Action dated September 2, 2003, which carried an original response date of December 2, 2003. Applicant believes the amendments provided herein place the claims in condition for allowance.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.